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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared by the Press Service for the use of USDA employees. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department of Agriculture.

Vol. LXXXIV, No. 21

Section 1

January 29, 1942

1941 EASTERN  
CONSTRUCTION  
AT 14-YEAR HIGH

AP report in Washington Post, January 22: Building and engineering contracts awarded in 1941 in 37 Eastern States totaled \$6,007,474,000, topping the six billion dollar mark for the first time since 1928, the F. W. Dodge Corporation reported yesterday. The previous post-depression high record was set in 1940, when awards in the Eastern States aggregated \$4,003,957,000. "The 1942 program is presently estimated to equal in total dollar volume that of 1941," the concern said, "with a vastly increased war construction program, volume of civilian construction curtailed to absolute essentials, and an approximately normal volume of maintenance and repairs."

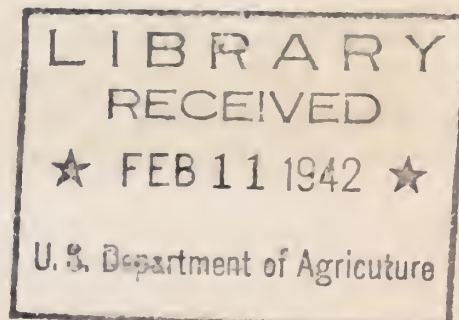
1,000,000 PINE  
SEEDLINGS TO  
FURNISH PULP

Chicago report in Florida Times Union, January 15: One million pine seedlings will be distributed free to land owners in northern Florida during January by the Container Corporation of America, Walter P. Faepcke, president of the company, has announced. Major objectives are to promote forest conservation as a national defense measure and to encourage farmers to grow a profitable cash crop annually on acreage now regarded as wasteland. Distribution of the seedlings will be made in 16 counties which supply raw materials to the corporation's pulp wood mill at Fernandina. In distribution of the seedlings, bought from the State nursery at Olustee, the corporation is cooperating with the Florida Forest and Park Service, Extension Service, and AAA in Florida. The young trees will be given to members of 4-H Clubs and of FFA and individual growers.

GREAT PLAINS  
USDA OFFICES  
REORGANIZED

Secretary Wickard, in Memorandum No. 970: Effective March 1, 1942, the Southern Great Plains Regional Office and the Northern Great Plains Regional Office of the Office of Land Use Coordination are abolished. All functions of these offices, except those functions which relate to administrative coordination of programs, together with their personnel and property, are transferred to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics...

Those functions of the Southern Great Plains Regional Office transferred by this memorandum shall be exercised through the regional integrator of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for program planning in the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. Those functions of the Northern Great Plains Regional Office transferred by this memorandum shall be exercised through the Bureau's regional integrator for program planning in the States of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, and Wyoming...





Trends in  
Food Costs

Agricultural Situation, January: For a number of years BAE has studied the spreads between farm and retail prices of 58 foods, analyzing changes in techniques and costs of food distribution, recommending ways of securing greater efficiency in production and distribution of foods. R. O. Been, in article in this issue says: Although food costs rose appreciably during 1941 they remain considerably below food costs in the so-called "prosperity" years of 1920 and 1929. In September 1941 a workingman's family could purchase the basket of 58 foods for \$357. The same foods cost \$415 in 1929 and \$514 in 1920.

The rate of annual earnings per employed factory worker was higher in September 1941 than at the prosperity peaks of 1920 or 1929. In September the typical factory worker's earnings were 15 percent higher than the 1929 average while the food basket could be purchased at a reduction of \$58, or 14 percent; and the worker's rate of annual earnings was 10 percent higher than the 1920 prosperity peak following World War I, yet cost of the food basket was \$157 less than in 1920, a difference of 30 percent in food outlay.

Nitrogen  
for Defense

Pennsylvania Farmer, January 17: Nitrogen is an essential in war and in peace. It is an ingredient of explosives and crops will not grow without it. Speaking on this subject in a radio address recently, J. A. Woods, president, Chilean Nitrate Corporation, brought out some facts of interest to farmers.

There are three principal sources of nitrogen, said Mr. Woods; the air, from which synthetic nitrate is obtained; coke, from which sulphate of ammonia is obtained, and deposits in Chile, from which natural nitrate of soda is mined. The supply of sulphate of ammonia will be about a third larger this year than last, the amount of synthetic nitrogen is limited by plant capacity, which, with expected expansion completed, will be twice that of last year.

George Washington  
as a Farmer

Progressive Farmer, February: In his last annual message to Congress, President Washington recommended the creation of a National Board of Agriculture to collect and distribute information on improved methods of agriculture and "by premiums and small pecuniary aids to encourage the spirit of discovery." But the nation had to wait until Civil War times for the Agricultural Department established two generations earlier. Washington's birthday will be celebrated all over the land on February 22. We who are farmers should doubly honor him, because in addition to being "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen," he was first in American agriculture.

British  
Farmers  
at War

Francis Flood, recently returned from England, in first of series of articles about the British farmer at war, in Prairie Farmer, January 10: Far more land is now under the plow in England than ever in her modern history. England began the war with nine million acres of plowed land and will have increased it to 13 million acres, or half again as much, by this coming spring. Last year was a poor year to plow but English farmers plowed two million acres more than the year before.



Every county has a war agricultural committee and every district a sub-committee. These are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, not elected. Every farm has been studied and analyzed by this army of committeemen, who are unpaid and who are good farmers themselves in their districts. They give advice--and orders where necessary--to every farmer in the country on every detail of his farming operation. The farmers don't resent in the least this complete regimentation during the war emergency.

Enterprise  
Management  
Farm Studies

Western Livestock Journal, December 15: In seeking to put agriculture on a firmer footing, many efforts have been made by agricultural colleges and schools to work out a simple but adequate form of accounting and factual data that would be of real service to farmers. In California, and to a lesser degree throughout the Pacific Coast states, there was no uniform pattern in size of farms or products grown or raised. To meet the conditions of such varied agriculture, the California College of Agriculture 15 years ago, through its extension department, started what is termed enterprise management studies.

In these studies the farmer keeps records on one particular enterprise, on forms which the Extension Service provides, and when these have been studied by the farm management division, the farmer receives a detailed record of that particular enterprise, with an analysis of what it has done at the end of a record year. Such studies increase in value if conducted over a term of years.

Skim Milk  
in Pig  
Ration

Arkansas Farmer, January: Skim milk used in feeding out pigs speeds up finish for market, increases weight, and replaces to some extent protein supplements in the ration, S. R. Johnson, Arkansas College of Agriculture, said in discussing the results of a recently completed feeding trial involving 84 pigs. All pigs were fed corn and protein supplement in self feeders, but in addition one-half, 42 pigs, was given three-fourths of a gallon of skim milk or buttermilk per pig daily. Pigs receiving milk ate less protein supplement and grew faster than those fed no milk. Each 100 pounds of milk replaced  $4\frac{1}{4}$  pounds of protein supplement, and produced  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pounds more pork. The total value of the skim milk replacing feed was 25 cents per hundred pounds of milk. The total feed cost was 6 cents per pound of pork produced. However, if the additional pork were valued at present selling prices rather than at production cost, the milk would be considerably more valuable, the animal husbandmen said.

"Celtuce,"  
New Lettuce

Pacific Rural Press, January 10: A non-heading type of lettuce has been tried out in test plots of the California College of Agriculture at Davis this year. Known as "celtuce", its origin and background are vague, apparently having been brought into this country from Asia. It produces a fleshy stalk which is palatable either raw or cooked, the stalk being large and succulent. In addition, the leaves when young may be used as leaf lettuce or greens. Dr. James E. Knott, Truck Crops Division, says celtuce has possibilities for home gardens, particularly for planting in spring and early summer.



Pine Oats,  
Cellulose  
Fodder

H. Ramo, in New England Homestead, January 10:  
"Pine oats," a new cellulose cattle fodder, was placed on the open market in Finland last month. Produced from ordinary pine, the new fodder, in nutritive value, is almost on a par with oats, whence it derives its name. The method of producing "pine oats" was developed last fall by Finnish scientists after the poor harvest of 1940, combined with the present import difficulties, created serious shortage of cattle fodder. Current production of "pine oats" is 500 tons daily, and Finland's vast forests assure unlimited supplies for future manufacture.

Pine oats alone, cannot be recommended for a long-time diet. The plan is to mix the substitute with the natural fodder. Best results have been obtained by feeding the cattle about 6½ pounds of moistened pine oats, 6½ pounds hay and about 1/3 pound mineral salts daily. The process of manufacture is similar to that of making wood pulp, except that the boiling process for fodder is much longer.

Hay Survey  
in New York  
Drought Areas

Albany report in American Milk Review, January:  
Acting as a clearing house of information in an effort to relieve hay shortages in some parts of New York State, the Bureau of Markets of the State Department of Agriculture and Markets has announced it has the names of farmers and dealers who have an additional 2,000 tons of hay available for the drought areas. Since the emergency service was first undertaken early in November, thousands of tons of hay have been moved as a result of the bureau's work. The newest survey of hay supplies was not confined solely to New York State. It disclosed hay sources in four adjoining states, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and Connecticut, upon which farmers may draw.

Brown-Rot  
Control in  
Stone Fruits

Better Fruit, January: Brown rot of stone fruits, which has caused considerable damage to fruit in Western Washington and Oregon for many years, takes two separate forms and both are controllable through proper application of correct materials at the right time, says Dr. Glenn A. Huber, plant pathologist, Western Washington Experiment Station in Pullman. The European form attacks cherries, peaches, and apricots while the American form damages prunes.

The European form may be controlled through the application of lime sulfur at the rate of 1 to 30 during the pre-blossom stage and 1 to 40 or 50 spray of lime-sulfur after the petals fall. Pruning and burning diseased wood also aids in control. Control of the American form consists in the application of calcium cyanamide dust at the rate of 200 to 300 pounds per acre just as the tiny spore cups begin to form. Application of a sulfur dust to the prunes two weeks before harvest also helps to control infestation.

Farm Machine  
Repair Parts

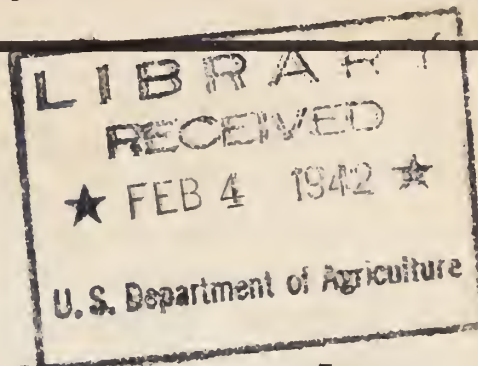
The Office of Agricultural Defense Relations has been advised by the Farm Machinery Industry Advisory Committee that orders for farm machinery repair parts are reaching an all-time high.

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Vol. LXXXIV, No. 22

Section 1

January 30, 1942

AMBER GEM,  
NEW GEORGIA  
CANNING PEACH

Athens, (Ga.) report in Atlanta Constitution, January 18: Successful cultivation of a new type of peach in Georgia was reported yesterday at the Georgia College of Agriculture. Under T. H. McHatton, head of horticulture, a firm, yellow-fleshed, clingstone peach, named Amber Gem, is now being successfully produced in Georgia. Experiments show it is of excellent quality for canning. The college said little peach canning had been done in Georgia because Elberta, which constitutes the principal peach crop, is too soft for this purpose. Amber Gem also can be picked in August after peaches for the fresh market have been disposed of. The new peach originated in New Jersey, was transplanted and cultivated in Michigan, and brought to Georgia by Dr. McHatton.

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CO-OP POTATO  
MARKETING

Harrisburg report in New York Herald Tribune, January 23: One Pennsylvania farm organization has partly solved the marketing problem for its members, it was said at the 26th annual Pennsylvania Farm Show. The Pennsylvania Potato Growers Association, before spring, will have marketed 2,000,000 bushels of potatoes on which the members received 86 cents of the consumer dollar. Through an agreement with chain and independent stores in Pennsylvania and bordering States, the association has been supplying "blue-label" potatoes in packages of 15 and 20 pounds with savings to the consumer and profits to the growers. All members of the association have their potatoes graded and packed at Bellefonte for distribution to stores.

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FLOUR SUPPLY  
AMPLE FOR  
18 MONTHS

Louisville report in New York Journal of Commerce, January 23: The nation's flour supply, even allowing for increased Army and Navy demands, will be more than ample for at least 18 months, Richard Bean, OPA wheat flour division, said in a message to the convention of the Southeastern Millers Association. A large current supply, in both private and governmental warehouses, large acreage of winter wheat already planted; good condition of the soil due to the AAA conservation program, and export difficulties because of the war, were given as reasons for the plentiful flour supply.

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RUBBER FOR  
CANNING,  
FRUIT JARS

New York Journal of Commerce, January 29: OPA came to the rescue yesterday of housewives who want to use fruit jar rings in canning this spring and summer. OPA officials said they believed sufficient rubber would be allotted to manufacturers for canning needs. Under rubber regulations, special permission has to be obtained for use of new rubber to make fruit jar rings.

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"The Price  
of Milk"

Prairie Farmer, January 10: Here's a new book, "The Price of Milk," by Dr. R. W. Bartlett, University of Illinois. The wide economic scope of "The Price of Milk" is indicated by the chapter headings: The Milk Problem; Monopoly, Coercion, and Unfair Practices; Price Systems that Have Failed; Proposed Government Remedies; A Price System That Works; Increasing Milk Consumption by Lowering Costs; Quality Control and the Price of Milk; Anti-Trust Enforcement. Here is presented the heart of the milk problem and the best means for its solution now in sight.

Frost Warnings  
Given Local  
Circulation

Pacific Rural Press, January 10: Major E. H. Bowie, regional director for the Weather Bureau, has defined the wartime regulations of weather reports. The general weather reports will be discontinued. Such reports are of value to the enemy in wartime. Food is a "weapon of war." Warnings against frosts and freezes which might destroy crops, will be continued--but not be given general or widespread circulation.

Farm Machines  
Are Weapons  
of Defense

Douglas Gray, In New Jersey Farm and Garden, January: What mechanization has already done for agriculture is small compared with what it will do in the period just ahead. That's a safe guess, based on shortage of farm labor, plus demand for increased farm production. Stretching the farm labor supply is the thing machinery does best. But machinery does other things, too. It puts quality into the farm products. The side delivery rake, for instance, turns hay into a windrow with the leafy portion of plants inside and the butts exposed--and that means better hay. Likewise, the pick-up baler puts the cured hay into bales without losing many of the leaves. The small, straight-through combine harvests soybeans from standing plants without cracking the beans.

Grapefruit Pulp  
in Dairy Feed

American Milk Review, January: Bulletin 354, published by the Florida Experiment Station, describes the feeding value and nutritive properties of citrus by-products and dried grapefruit pulp for milk production. "Dried grapefruit pulp was palatable to dairy cows, even after they had received their full regular feed," the report states.

"Slightly more milk and butterfat were produced while the cows received dried grapefruit pulp," the findings continue, "but feed consumption and body weights were slightly greater during the periods on dried beet pulp. Results indicate these two by-products are practically equal in feeding value when supplied as bulky carbohydrate feeds to dairy cows."

Food Packers  
Try Glass  
Containers

National Grocers Bulletin, January: Many food manufacturers who pack their wares in tin have been experimenting with glass recently. Companies who have used glass for years on certain lines are expanding its use. Some manufacturers are going to glass experimentally with only a part of the pack. Items now being shifted in part to glass containers are some fruits and vegetables, syrups, coffee, smoking tobacco, dog foods and baby foods.



Iowa 4-H Flocks  
Superior to  
State Average

Ames, Iowa, report in American Egg and Poultry Review, December: According to W. R. Whitfield, Iowa Extension poultry specialist, 4-H boys enrolled in the 1941 Poultry Marketing Project produced flocks which were far superior to the average flocks in the state. He reports that 96 percent of the chickens, produced under the project this year sold as first grade. This surpasses the average number of birds in the state to attain this quality by a margin of 30 percent.

Moreover, 19 percent of the birds marketed by those in the project attained a weight of more than 5 pounds within 16 weeks, and 75 percent weighed more than 4 pounds within the same period. According to Whitfield, the average poultryman requires from 20 to 24 weeks to produce birds of the same weight.

The specialist reports that 3,658 birds were sold by Iowa youths in the marketing program this year. The Poultry Marketing Project, sponsored by the Extension Service, is a new project designed to teach poultry production and management to farm boys on a practical basis.

Fertilizer  
Defense  
Survey

American Fertilizer, January 3: The first fertilizer industry meeting of the subcommittee on superphosphate and sulphuric acid (of American Fertilizer Association) following declaration of war reported that, based on replies to a questionnaire on superphosphate production sent out through the association, and factors such as increased production of food-stuffs, estimated requirements of superphosphate to be made with sulphuric acid in 1942 would be 6,362,000 equivalent short tons of 16 percent superphosphate.

The figures include 150,000 tons to take the place of superphosphate made in 1941 by TVA with furnace acid, which in turn was made from elemental phosphorus. Probably no elemental phosphorus will go into fertilizer in 1942. The estimate covers the requirements for this country, including AAA, TVA farm test demonstrations, and for export.

Canada Sets  
Textile Import  
Regulations

Canadian Textile Journal, January 16: Applying to all classes and descriptions of textiles excepting silk and cotton manufactures under regulations laid down by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, a continued flow of necessary imported goods for sale in Canada under the retail price ceiling is to be furthered through the Commodity Prices Stabilization Corporation. A WPTB statement states if import prices of such goods rise to a degree which cannot be absorbed by trade and industry, subsidies will be paid through the corporation. Duties and taxes on imported goods may, however, be reduced from time to time in such a way as to reduce the need for subsidies.

Nutrition  
Merchandising  
Program

N. Y. Herald Tribune, January 23: Harry E. Houghton has been appointed merchandising consultant to the office of Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator. Mr. Houghton's duties will include development of a national nutrition merchandising plan for the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Service, and coordination of nutritional activities of all industries with this plan.



Conservation  
of Metal, Paper  
Rubber urged

National Provisioner, January 10: American Industry can contribute valuable service in successful prosecution of the war by preventing waste of labor and material, conserving essential resources and making sure that accumulations of scrap metal, rubber, paper, etc., are sent immediately to swell the stock piles of necessary raw materials. The salvaging and reuse of machinery and equipment, as far as they are economically possible, are equally important.

There are few meat plants which do not have a considerable accumulation of burned-out boiler tubes, wornout valves, pipe and fittings and broken castings, as well as discarded motors, rails, hangers, sheet iron, machines and equipment. The "pile" should be carefully sorted to separate material which can be repaired or reconditioned from junk with no reuse value. Hauling the latter through the junk man to the steel mills and smelters is a worth-while contribution to national defense.

Farm-Home Talks,  
Week Feb. 2-7

Among radio talks scheduled on the National Farm and Home Hour, week of February 2-7, are the following: February 2 -- Secretary Wickard speaks from meeting of Midwestern USDA War Boards in St. Louis; February 3 -- American Agriculture Mobilizes, Farm Women's Part in the War Effort; February 5 -- All Metals Are Precious, Ruth Van Deman, BHE and Planning for Peanuts, V. R. Boswell, BPI.

Broomsedge  
Menace in  
the South

Editorial in Southern Planter, January: On a 20,000-mile trip in December through the South, we noticed the steady encroachment of broomsedge upon pastures of the Upper South. From western Maryland to south Georgia, fields and pastures at this season are a veritable yellow sea of waving sedge grass. To abandoned fields and waste land, it is a blessing, growing on thin land and saving the face of the earth from galls and gullies. But to pastures it is a menace of the first rank. When land is low in lime and plant food and not closely grazed, broomsedge will crowd out the more desirable pasture plants. A sure way to eradicate the pest is to apply a ton of ground limestone and 300 to 800 pounds of 20 percent superphosphate to the acre, and graze the pasture closely or mow it in late summer.

Systematic  
and Economic  
Entomology

R. W. Hunt, in California Cultivator, January 10, reviews recent annual meeting, in San Francisco, of American Association of Economic Entomologists and Entomological Society of America: Worthy of particular note, he says, was a paper by E. O. Essig, University of California. He showed how important it is to describe and classify an insect exactly so the field workers in any part of the world may readily recognize it. There is a tendency for the systematist to draw away from the broader field of agricultural entomology and in this connection he said, "Although the general scopes of systematic and economic entomology overlap, it is important to note that in actual practice they seldom now actually unite and that there is a distinct gap between them." Essig offered a program which would stimulate closer cooperation between these two great entomological groups.



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Vol. LXXXIV, No. 23

Section 1

February 2, 1942

President's  
Statement on  
Price Control  
Legislation

President Roosevelt's statement on the emergency price control act, when he signed it on January 30, said in part:

"...The farm program which has been developed since 1933 has set parity prices and income as a goal. There is nothing in this Act to prevent farmers receiving parity or a fair return. But I feel that most farmers realize that when farm prices go much above parity, danger is ahead. One of the best ways of avoiding excessive price rises, of course, is abundant production. And I hope agricultural prices can be maintained at such level as to give farmers a fair return for increasing production.

"In giving my approval to this legislation, I am acting with the understanding, confirmed by congressional leaders, that there is nothing contained therein which can be construed as a limitation upon the existing powers of governmental agencies, such as the Commodity Credit Corporation, to make sales of agricultural commodities in the normal conduct of their operations. In my message to the Congress on August 25, 1941, disapproving the bill H.R. 5300, I pointed out the extreme disadvantages of any action designed to peg prices through the arbitrary withholding of Government-owned stocks from the normal channels of trade and commerce.

"I further pointed out that the Commodity Credit Corporation should be free to dispose of commodities acquired under its programs in an orderly manner, for otherwise it will be impossible to maintain an ever-normal granary, to protect farmers against surpluses and consumers against scarcity; and that to restrict the authority of this corporation would greatly increase its losses, nullify the effectiveness of existing programs, and by breaking faith with consumers be inconsistent with our present price control efforts.

"I also should like to call attention to the fact that I am requesting the departments of the Government possessing commodities to make such commodities available to other departments in order to aid our war effort. This request, primarily, will affect the cotton stocks of the Commodity Credit Corporation and will permit such stocks to be utilized, directly or by exchange, in the production of war goods. Such transfers will be in addition to the quantities which are now available for sale. The request will also include grain and other commodities which may be needed by the departments concerned..."

Cheese Ration

Science News Letter, January 24: Vegetarians, farm workers, miners, and some industrial workers are eligible in Britain for a special cheese ration of 12 ounces a week.

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U. S. Department of Agriculture



Farm-Retail  
Price Spreads  
(By BAE)

Prices paid to farmers for a representative group of food products rose nearly 4 percent from mid-November to mid-December, while the rise in cost of the same foods to consumers was negligible and marketing charges declined. Farmers' share of the consumers' food dollars increased from 50 cents in November to 52 cents in December. During 1941 non-farm family income increased more than food prices. Measured in terms of consumer income, the same foods now require a smaller share of income than formerly - the smallest in 29 years of record.

Food prices in December 1941 averaged 15 percent higher than in December 1940; nonagricultural consumer income in December 1941 averaged 17 percent higher than in December 1940. But the rise in food prices varied greatly as among different foods, as did the rise in consumer income among various nonagricultural occupations. Increases in food prices ranged in 1941 from advances of less than 1 percent in the case of breakfast cereals to 20 percent for white flour, 23 percent for eggs, 32 percent for pork products, and 42 percent for Irish potatoes. Greatest gains in nonagricultural income have gone to industrial and munitions workers, relatively small gains to other groups of the nonagricultural population, and practically no gains to a large body of salaried workers. Analyses show that during the past year practically all of the rise in retail prices of food was passed back to the farmers, that the marketing margin between farm and retail prices increased slightly during the first half of the year but then declined, and ended 1941 slightly lower than a year earlier.

In December 1941 the average nonfarm family spent only 23 percent of its income for food, as contrasted with 27 percent during the five years 1935-39. The highest proportion in the 29 years of record was 38 percent in 1919. The December 1941 figure - 23 percent - was the smallest on record.

Mural Based  
on 20,000  
FSA Photos

Defender Trade Bulletin, (Year End 1941): The world's largest photo-mural, covering the entire east wall of the main concourse at Grand Central Terminal in New York City was dedicated by the Treasury Department December 14, 1941, as part of its campaign to sell war bonds. Measuring 96x118 feet, the mural is based on a selection from 20,000 prints by the FSA Photo Section. The tremendous enlargements are mounted on composition board on a steel scaffolding. The subjects, drawn from different sections of the country, include a Montana mountain, Washington wheat fields, an Idaho farm wife, California children, a Nevada workman, a New Jersey factory, Michigan smoke stacks and a Vermont sky, as well as American boys in uniform and engines of war.

Latin American  
Publishing  
Company Formed

Medical Record, January 21: To improve relations with Latin America and help replace French, German, Italian and Spanish technical and scientific books, the Chemical Publishing Co., Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y., has formed a Latin-American Publishing Co., called Editorial Technica Unida. The latter has already published thirty-seven bulletins and twelve books, and twenty additional books are in process. The subjects of these bulletins and books, printed in Spanish and Portuguese, are aeronautics, engineering, industrial processes, metals and metal working, agriculture, chemistry and formularies; also commercial, technical and military dictionaries.



Comment on  
NRPB Special  
Report

Alfred Friendly, in Washington Post, January 29:

A special report issued yesterday by National Resources Planning Board and prepared by Alvin H. Hansen, Harvard economics professor and special adviser to Federal

Reserve Board rejects the thesis that a post-war depression is inevitable.

Hansen says: "We need to carry on extensive research in the laboratories of our great private corporations, our universities, and Government bureaus to create new products and develop new processes...We need to rebuild America -- urban redevelopment projects, rural rehabilitation, low-cost housing, express highways, terminal facilities, electrification, flood control, reforestation...We need a public health program, including expansion of hospital facilities. We need a nutrition program...We have seen how it is possible to mobilize the productive capacities of the country for war. We can also mobilize them for peace."

Process Lessens

Science News Letter, January 24: "Stoop" labor

Stoop Labor in  
Growing Beets

in the sugar beet industry will be lessened by a development to be widely used throughout the sugar-beet area in the West in 1942. Roy Bainer, Experiment

Station, Davis California, and his associates worked out a process to "crack" beet seed hulls and release the single seed-units for planting singly. The process consists essentially of passing the seeds between a disk and a moving belt.

Farmers can now plant beet seeds singly, with the aid of new planting machinery which is also being developed, and though they cannot plant them just where they want them, they can plant them far enough apart so that men with long-handled hoes can now pass rapidly along the rows and clip unwanted beets out of the soil. A man can now thus thin beets up to an acre a day. Demonstrations were conducted all over the beet country this year under the auspices of the beet-sugar companies.

National  
Scientific  
Roster

Leonard Carmichael, Director, National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel, in Science,

January 23: So far, more than 200,000 names of individuals are listed in the roster. From this list already

more than 50,000 names have been presented to defense agencies and other government bureaus for consideration in connection with appointments.

The roster seems to have so many implications for peace-time as well as war-time economy that it is our hope that this new and effective agency for dealing with America's highly trained citizens may not be thought of wholly in war terms, although at present almost all its activities are of a defense character.

Abstracts  
on Animal  
Industry

The first issue of Abstracts of Animal Production and Veterinary Science (Section F of Biological Abstracts) has appeared. This section, edited at the University of Pennsylvania, will consist of 10 issues a year (\$5).

It will contain all abstracts published by BA that deal with breeding, nutrition, metabolism, husbandry, reproductive and other physiology, arthropod pests of livestock, poultry, and semi-domesticated animals and birds, and pet stock. The first issue contains 514 abstracts from 135 journals.



Farm Repair  
Campaign  
Progressing

Implement & Tractor, January 17: The current repair campaign conducted by the USDA is forging ahead at greatly increased tempo as the county war boards intensify their efforts to have all farm machinery in good operating condition before the advent of spring. County agents are using posters, circular letters, radio and newspaper publicity to reach farmers and bring the campaign to a successful close.

The concerted drive, according to some manufacturers, has already manifested itself in an increasing volume of orders for replacement parts. The primary concern of the boards at this time is to stimulate the placing of orders for repair parts that are needed now or will be needed later in the season. Since the start of the campaign last fall, many farmers have estimated their requirements and have ordered parts.

Outlook  
in Food

United States News, January 30: Americans are beginning to wonder if they face the food and clothing shortages which have overtaken most of the other nations at war. Individuals are feeling the impulse to hoard, much as industry did a year ago. More and more people, accustomed to hearing that farmers were in trouble because they raised too much, began to ask if they could produce enough.

Prospects are that farmers can raise what is needed, although the day of wide-spread surpluses is over and some belt-tightening is ahead for sugar and wool. U.S. farmers have become part of the supply machine for the war effort of the United Nations. However, total supplies of American farm products are higher than ever and this year farmers aim to produce one-fifth more than their average for recent years. Barring a major drought, chances are that the drive, led by Secretary Wickard, will reach its major goals despite tight spots in new farm equipment, fertilizers, and farm labor supply.

Wartime Feeding  
of Children,  
War Workers

London correspondence in A.M.A. Journal, January 24: In the House of Lords Lord Woolton, minister of food, stated the government was anxious to extend feeding of children in schools by local education authorities and would make grants for the purpose. At present there were five million children in the elementary and secondary schools, and only three hundred thousand of these receiving meals in school. Priority supplies had been arranged to enable schools to serve balanced meals for maintaining growth and health of school children. Extension of milk in schools scheme would also come into operation at once.

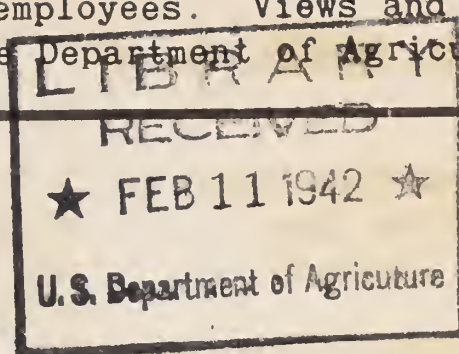
In wartime, said the minister, it was the duty of the government to see there was food adequate for maintaining physical strength of workers producing munitions for our allies and ourselves. This could be done, thanks in large measure to aid given by the United States and our farmers. Food would be allocated to industrial canteens according to needs in three groups -- for workers requiring meals of the most substantial kind, for those catering for other workers and for those who serve the rest of the population. Heavy workers required more meat, fish or cheese than office workers.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

February 3, 1942

British Expert  
to Aid Russia  
in Replanting

British Press Service, January 29: Russia will be aided in its post-war recovery of "scorched earth" areas by Sir John Russell, British expert on production of edibles from the soil. Sir John, director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, has been appointed special adviser to the Soviet relations branch of the Ministry of Information. With information gathered on two trips through Russia, he has pointed out the inevitable result of the "scorched earth" policy is famine and pestilence, necessitating large-scale relief and entailing wide-spread agricultural reconstruction.

Conditions in the Ukraine have not favored soil erosion like that in "dust bowl" sections of the United States. Russian plant-breeders have produced varieties of crops suited to different regions with special regard to drought-resisting types of grain. It would greatly facilitate reconstruction if selected varieties of grain could be sent to western Canada and the United States to multiply in readiness for the time of need.

Sheep Scab  
Cured by  
Repeated  
Dipping

Iowa State College: Sheep scab, recently reported serious in southern Iowa, can be completely controlled only by repeated dipping. K. W. Stouder, extension veterinarian, says sheep scab is a highly contagious skin disease easily transmitted from one sheep to another by contact and spreads very rapidly once established. Lime-sulphur and nicotine sulfate are the most common control methods. Liquid or dry lime-sulphur may be used. Nicotine sulfate of 40 percent strength is used at the rate of 1 part nicotine sulfate to 200 parts of water. One can of lye dissolved in each 75 gallons of water softens the water and makes the dip more effective. Rubbing posts must be treated regularly with lime-sulphur solution or dip to prevent spread of the mites and as a control for sheep already infested. The Iowa state division of animal industry now requires all sheep sold through sale barns to be properly dipped under veterinary supervision before being released to the purchaser.

Civil Service  
Examinations

No. 210, Unassembled -- Metallurgist, \$2,000 to \$5,600. Applications to be accepted until further notice. Persons on register as result of announcements Nos. 10, 30, 95 need not apply, as eligibility will be continued.

No. 209, Assembled -- Translator, \$1,800 to \$2,300. Optional languages: Chinese, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Magyar, Modern Greek, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish. Applications must be on file by March 17. Persons on register as result of announcements No. 19 need not apply, as eligibility will be continued.



Good Nutrition  
"First Line  
of Defense"

Editorial in Medical Record, January 21: Wartime food problems are once more to the front in Europe and Asia. Food may mean victory or defeat. The defeat of the Italians at Caporetto in the last war is ascribed to the reduction of the rations of the Italian troops below a minimum caloric value. Physical and mental fitness depends largely, if not chiefly, upon proper nutrition. A well-nourished body is easily the most effective protection against disease, so that a nation of well-nourished individuals is a healthy nation. No hard and fast rule can be laid down for diet under any conditions. General principles founded on experience and scientific research may be followed, but so many things have to be taken into consideration that such principles cannot be followed rigidly.

Everyone should have enough to eat and, as far as circumstances permit, the right kind of food. Recent research work on nutrition recognized and emphasized malnutrition and undernutrition during the early years of life, including the prenatal period. The way to build up a healthy race, with good physique, is to see that the nutrition of the expectant mother and the pre-school child is adequate, both as to quantity and quality. The incidence of disease due to faulty diet is high. Proper nutrition is the first line of defense.

Vitamin A  
Supply to  
Be Ample

Science News Letter, January 24: There is little danger of a war-caused shortage of Vitamin A, needed for general health, promoting normal growth in children, and protection against night-blindness, which might be a special danger during blackouts. Chief sources of the vitamin for putting up in capsules are fish liver oils, but they are not the only sources of the vitamin. Liver of other animals, such as beef liver, is a good source of this vitamin. So are eggs, cream and butter. Vegetables do not contain vitamin A itself, but they do contain coloring substances, or pigments, called carotenoids, which the body can make into vitamin A.

Uses for  
Synthetic  
Rubber

Implement & Tractor, January 17: Among uses to which synthetic rubber developed by the Goodrich laboratories has already been put, the company lists the following: Gaskets for windshield wipers, gasoline cans, gasoline and oil pumps, pistons, journal boxes of mine cars, refrigerators, greasing equipment, transformers, fuel oil gauges, pneumatic tools, carburetors, airplane engine parts, fire-fighting equipment, shock absorbers, auto steering columns, auto dust seals, and for Diesel engines.

Miscellaneous uses include printing rubbers, tubing for gasoline lines on miniature auto and airplane engines, compounds for bonding abrasive wheels, covers for rollers of cloth measuring machines, parts used in making spark plugs, and platens for typewriters and business machines.

Seeds for  
Quick Frozen  
Vegetables

Gordon Morrison, on vegetable seed situation in frozen food industry, in Quick Frozen Foods, December: The situation in northern Europe since the spring of 1940 has had a material influence upon vegetable seed supplies available to American growers for use in 1941 and 1942. In the spring of 1940, American seedsmen increased at once their domestic acreages



of many items, in order to offset the prospective shortages. However, late planting and consequent short crops of many items in 1940, and continued restriction of imports and unfavorable growing conditions in some sections in 1941 have continued a shortage of seed supplies following 1941 harvests.

Naturally, steps are already being taken for an adequate acreage of seed crops in 1942. However, growers should realize that today there is a fairly general shortage of vegetable seeds for immediate use from the 1941 harvest.

Meat Research  
at Minnesota  
University

National Provisioner, January 3: How to improve the color of lard, raise its melting point, and retard rancidity are among important research discoveries made at the University of Minnesota under a \$25,000 yearly research program financed by Hormel & Co., meat packers of Austin, Minn. Other products and processes being studied are fat and its nutritive properties, meat drying and tenderizing, storage, canning, and utilization of waste products. Patents taken out on new processes developed are owned and controlled by the university, while the Hormel company automatically gets shop rights to use the processes in its plant.

Thrifty Ways  
to Use Meat

Butchers' Advocate, December 31: In these times the meat man has an obligation to help customers use food to best advantage. Among many thrifty ideas appearing recently in newspaper and magazines are these: (1) Suggestions on salvaging and using ham or bacon fats. (2) Using leftover cooked bacon for muffins, scrambled eggs, or fried potato garnishes. (3) Using hambones to give flavor and richness to soups. (4) Using water in which fresh beef has been boiled as broth or for flavoring potatoes and other vegetables. (5) Making vegetable soup with bones of broiled steak or roast. (6) Adding small amounts of leftover meat to spaghetti, rice, or macaroni dishes. (7) Making meat pies from leftover roasts. (8) Extending meats with bread stuffing . . . such as flank steak, boned shoulder of lamb or veal, baked spareribs, or meatloaf.

Fluorescent Dyes  
for Blackout  
Conditions

Canadian Textile Journal, January 15: Fluorescent dyestuffs are finding new applications for dyeing materials which are required to appear luminous under blackout conditions in districts subject to attack from the air, according to H. E. Millson, American Cyanamid Co., in Technical Bulletin No. 616. Many fluorescent shades glow brightly when held several feet from a weak source of ultraviolet rays. A wide range of fluorescent shades can be produced with dyes on many textile fibres.

Carpets that glow in total darkness when activated by black light are available in a variety of beautiful patterns and are now being used in theatres. A fluorescent carpet can be lighted with weak, invisible ultraviolet rays generated from storage batteries, independent of the main source of current. Even in cases of complete blackouts, people may follow the glowing designs because the light is generated within the wool fibres. Dark stairways, passages, and halls may be covered with fluorescent carpets. Fluorescent braids can be prepared from dyed yarn, or even twine, and used in an emergency to reveal doors, windows, and passages.



State-Owned  
Lime Plants                      Southern Planter, January: In Virginia, State owned and operated lime-grinding plants supply agricultural lime to farmers at cost of production. Virginia has had such an arrangement for over 20 years. The State plants supply about 25 percent of all agricultural lime used in Virginia, and most of it is ground by convict labor. With new emphasis on feed and livestock production will come greater need for agricultural lime.

Italian-Type  
Varieties  
of Cheese                      J. C. Marquardt, New York (Geneva) Experiment Station, In National Butter and Cheese Journal, January: In spite of the fact that well over three-fourths of our cheese is American Cheddar there is a keen interest in so-called foreign types. Through the cooperation of Raphael Giolletti of Geneva, and Hugo Bonetti of Caracas, Venezuela, it has been possible to obtain excellent Italian translations for procedures given for Caciocavallo, Provolone, Provole, and Pecorino Romano. They are given as a guide to the best procedures outlined in Italian references. Toward the end of the article are listed procedures developed at the Geneva station.

World Cotton  
Market Pact  
Recommended                      Jackson (Miss.) report to N.Y. Herald Tribune, January 27: Oscar Johnston, president, National Cotton Council, addressing the annual convention, said the United States, Brazil, Argentina, and Peru should take immediate steps to develop agreements covering production and prices of cotton and equitable division of foreign markets. Such agreements could include also India and Egypt. When normal conditions are restored after the war, there will be ample markets for all cotton now grown in the Western Hemisphere and more than enough to maintain normal cotton economy. There should be no price competition between producers of the United States and South America.

Canadian  
Eggs for  
Britain                      Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa: To encourage Canadian egg producers to supply the maximum quantity of the best quality eggs for Britain during 1942, the Agricultural Supplies Board has been authorized, under an Order-in-Council, to pay a bonus of 3 cents a dozen on all Grade A eggs purchased for export under the present agreement with the British Ministry of Food. An additional bonus of 1/2 cent a dozen will be paid for oil-dipping such eggs, a process which helps retain quality and is especially requested by the ministry. Present contracts with the ministry call for delivery of 772,000 cases of eggs before May 31, 1942, and recently it requested that this quantity be increased and the largest quantity possible be stored in Canada for shipment in the fall of 1942.

British  
Farming  
Experiment                      London wireless to New York Times, January 26: New Forest, England, will be used for the largest communal farming experiment ever attempted in Britain. It is hoped to have 20,000 acres supporting 10,000 head of cattle. The Government is concerned over departure of men from New Forest farms. As an initial step, it has provided 1,000 acres of ranch land.